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124 which the hair of many of the men was cut, which often rendered dis-
[302] tinction of shade very difficult. Owing to the season most of the observations had to be made in the morning when the people were going to their work, or early in the evening when they were returning, or gathered around their cottage doors; in many cases, however, they were followed to the harvest field and measured there.

The taking of photographs did not, as elsewhere, cause the assembly
126 of the knot of spectators which usually affords so good an opportunity
[123] for the collection of eye and hair colours; it had rather the opposite effect, as the people have a strong dislike to having their portraits taken.

In spite of these difficulties, however, I succeeded in noting the eye and hair colours of 241 individuals, on 40 of whom (being about one-fifth of the adult males of the islands) measurements and other observations were taken.

Care was exercised that none of those measured should be entered in the ordinary nigrescence cards, as well as to avoid recording the same individual twice or the noting of persons who were not natives.

(E). *Photography.*—For the reasons already mentioned there could not be as much done in this department as had been hoped; but, in spite of the strong aversion shown by many of the people to having their portraits taken, and the strong winds prevailing during our stay, my brother, J. M. Browne, who accompanied me to do the necessary photography, succeeded in obtaining a considerable number of typical groups, as well as some single portraits in full face and profile, and a series of views illustrative of the modes of life and environment of the people.

2.—Physical Characters.

142 (A). The people, on the whole, much resemble the inhabitants of the opposite coast of Connemara, and their appearance testifies to a mixed origin. The following is believed to be a correct description of their average physical characters:—

Stature and bulk.—The men, as a rule, are stoutly built, and of medium height; very few can fairly be termed tall, and there is a very considerable proportion of men of low stature. The average height is
[141] 1633 mm., or about 5 feet 6½ inches, which falls short of the Irish mean stature as found by Gould, the Anthropometric Committee of the British Association, and others, by about two inches.

142 The women are of a slighter build than the men, and, apparently,
143 more even in height; they also show more strikingly that great simi-

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larity of appearance produced by the constant intermarriage of the same families through several generations. 142 [143]

Limbs.—The hand is often short and broad, and the forearm and upper arm long. In no case was the span of arms (*grande envergue*) observed to be less than the stature, a peculiarity which was observable in nearly a quarter of the persons measured in Aran last year.

Head.—The head is, in many cases, of large size, and is usually well-shaped, with an almost straight or but slightly projecting occiput. It rises to a considerable height above the ears (yielding a mean height index of 69·2), and has a mean cephalic index, when reduced to the cranial standard by the subtraction of two units, of 78·4, or, in other words, it is mesaticephalic; about a quarter of the men measured, however, were brachycephalic, and an eighth slightly dolichocephalic. The eleven crania of both sexes measured at Tempull Colman yielded an average cephalic index of 77·0, thus nearly agreeing with the measurements on the living subject (see p. 333). The forehead is broad and upright, but not very high. Superciliary ridges and glabella very slightly marked, and eyebrows thick, level, and seldom showing much tendency to arch. 142 141

Face.—The face is long and scutiform, narrowing in rapidly in the bigonial region. The cheek-bones are not prominent; the horizontal lines at the "root" of the nose are very deep, and have between them a raised ridge or fold of skin. The eyes have irides of a blue or light bluish-grey, seldom hazel, and are moderately wide apart; being often half-closed they give the impression of being small, and are marked externally by deep horizontal wrinkles. The nose is in many cases rather short, and in profile is usually straight or sinuous, rarely aquiline, and then not to a great degree. The mouth is large and frequently open with lips of medium thickness. The teeth are remarkably short, broad, and even, remaining white, and, apparently, sound to an advanced period of life. The chin is long, but not projecting; the mental process being small, and the jaw is very long with but little curve. The ears are small, outstanding,[1] and somewhat coarsely moulded, and in nearly half the cases observed had the lobule adherent or absent. Several abnormalities were observed, as presence of the Darwinian tubercle, flattening of the upper part of the pinna, with obliteration of the anti-helix, and in one case (No. 5 of those measured) 142

[1] This is probably due to the lateral bulging of the mastoid processes so noticeable in the crania.

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Face.—The face is of medium length, with prominent cheek-bones, and is rather broader in the bigonial region than observed in either Aran or Inishbofin.

The nose is short and has nearly always a straight profile; of the 62 men measured, 50 had straight, 8 sinuous, 2 aquiline, and 2 retroussé noses.

The wrinkles on the face are very deep, most so about the eyes and at the "root" of the nose, where there is often a raised fold of skin between two deep furrows. The mouth is large, with lips of medium thickness, often kept habitually apart when the face is at rest, but the large hanging lower lip is not so noticeable a character here as in other localities of the west coast.

The teeth are usually very short and even.

The chin is prominent, but not long, and the angles of the jaw are rather oblique.

The eyes, which are placed moderately wide apart, have irides of a light blue or bluish-gray, and being deep set and (in the fishermen) habitually half closed, they present to a casual observer the appearance of being small in size.

The ears are small, projecting, and rather coarsely moulded. Abnormalities of the lobule are common, and were seen in 33 out of the 62 men on whom observations were made; of these the lobule was absent in 10, and attached in 23. Absence of the lobule is very common in the northern part of the Mullet, and appears to be a local character there; in nearly all the men seen at Muingcrena this part of the organ was either of very small size or was absent altogether. Flattening out of the pinna and Darwinian tubercle were observed in several cases. [143]

Skin.—Wrinkles, as before mentioned, come early, first appearing about the eyes.

The complexion is either ruddy or pale, rarely sallow; on exposure to the sun and wind it becomes a clear red, seldom freckling or turning brown.

Hair.—The prevailing colour for the hair is dark brown, next in order of frequency is brown or chestnut, next black; fair and red hair are comparatively scarce.

In the case of the Inishkea people, the most usual hair colour seems to be a clear brown, accompanied by reddish-brown beard and blue-grey eyes; in these islands also, there is a larger proportion of fair hair than on the mainland. The hair and beard (when worn) are fairly abundant. Greyness does not appear to set in early.

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It has been stated by one or two casual visitors that the natives of Inishkea were dwarfed and very degenerate, but this idea seems to have arisen from the islands having been visited at a time when most of the able-bodied men were away at the lobster-fishery, and only the immature, the old, and the ailing were at home. No man of less than 1640 m.m. (5 ft. 4½ in.) was met with on either island, and the men appear to be robust and athletic, while the women are, on the whole, good looking.

The people themselves do not seem to ascribe any ill effects to the close intermarriage. It is doubtful if these unions are proportionally more frequent in Inishkea than on the mainland.

Diseases.—The following account is believed to be correct, though, as before stated, there was much difficulty in obtaining accurate information on this subject. Actual figures are given wherever they could be obtained.

The principal diseases may be classed as follows :—

Insanity.—A considerable number of cases occur in Erris, mainly in the mountainous districts, comparatively few in the Mullet, and, all informants agreed in stating, that there have been none for many years from either north or south Inishkea.

The prevalence of insanity in the mountainous regions may probably be partly due to illicit distillation, and the influences of worse food and inferior dwellings compared to those of the people of the coast.

Idiocy and Imbecility.—Repeated inquiries failed to find more than two imbeciles, one on south Inishkea, and the other in Belmullet. Two members of the family in the south Inishkea case are lame; no history could be obtained relative to the parents.

Epilepsy is not very common, but several cases (number not ascertained) are known; none of these are in the islands.

Deaf-mutism.—There is one case of deaf-mutism in Belmullet. Parents were said not to be related. No cases in the peninsula or on the islands.

Blindness, except among the aged, is not common. A congenitally blind boy was drowned in the year 1893, trying to cross in a curragh from one of the islands to the mainland with a cargo of poteen.

Malformations seem to be rare, two cases of hare lip were the only ones seen, and the inquiry failed to find any more except the two cases of lameness mentioned above.

Fevers.—Enteric and typhus are both common, cases of the latter being of frequent occurence. Measles and scarlet fever are not very often met with.

human relationships are few. There is, in fact, little difference in the style of life between the most and the least prosperous of the islanders. The web of kinship rather than the possession of status attributes, for the most part, determines who will interact with whom and in what manner. Land and money are the principal symbols, with formal education and influential relatives (particularly priests, nuns, and teachers), on the mainland and abroad, becoming more important. Two generations ago, strength, courage, economic skills, and musical and storytelling abilities were highly regarded as well, but acculturation has lessened their significance.

Although there are fifty-nine nuclear families, only thirteen surnames exist today. There is much inbreeding, as might be expected, and the church carefully checks the genealogies of prospective spouses to ascertain their degree of consanguinity. Courtship is almost nonexistent, and most marriages are arranged with little concern for the desires of the young people involved. Late marriage and celibacy are as prevalent in Inis Beag as elsewhere in Ireland. The average marriage age for men is thirty-six and for women twenty-five, and 29 percent of those persons eligible for marriage are single.[3] The functions of the family are mainly economic and reproductive, and conjugal love is extremely rare. A sharp dichotomy exists between the sexes; both before and after marriage men interact mostly with men and women with women. The average family has seven offspring, and many women are unhappy about being forced by the unauthorized decree of local priests to produce as many children as possible. They feel that the constant bearing and rearing of offspring increase their work, restrict their freedom, and perpetuate the poverty of their families. Jealousy of the greater freedom of men is commonly expressed by women who have many young children. Mothers bestow a considerable amount of attention and affection on their offspring, especially on their sons. However, tensions between fathers and sons which develop in childhood often flare into scarcely repressed hostility

[3] Twenty-nine percent of those islanders of marriageable age are single. This rises to a high of 37 percent among first and second generation Inis Beag emigrants, indicating the actions of more than just economic causes. Irish scholars, for obvious reasons, tend to stress economic and other (climate, race, English oppression, the famine, loss of the Irish tongue, etc.) monistic causes in their analyses of culture and personality phenomena. Inadequate statistics for second and third generation migrants from Inis Beag suggest that the celibacy rate lowers markedly only when descendants of immigrants dissociate themselves from Irish ethnic communities and Irish-American priests. Ethnographic research is sorely needed among Irish of several generations in the countries to which they have migrated to probe this and other phenomena.